

# State of South Dakota

## NINETIETH SESSION LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 2015

666W0645

### SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 5

Introduced by: Senators Lederman, Frerichs, Holien, Monroe, Rave, Rusch, Soholt, Solano, and Tieszen and Representatives Bolin, Anderson, DiSanto, Harrison, Marty, McCleerey, Munsterman, Peterson (Kent), Schoenbeck, Schrempp, Stalzer, Wiik, Wink, and Wollmann

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION, Supporting a stronger South Dakota-China relationship.

2 WHEREAS, the United States of America and the People's Republic of China established  
3 official diplomatic ties in 1979, which has produced numerous benefits to the people in both  
4 nations; and

5 WHEREAS, President Barack Obama of the United States and President Xi Jinping of  
6 China stressed in Beijing in November 2014 to promote the construction of a new model of  
7 major-country relations between the two countries, and to put into practice principles of no  
8 conflict, no confrontation, mutual respect, and cooperation; and

9 WHEREAS, the annual trade volume between the United States and China reached over half  
10 a trillion dollars in 2013 and the two countries are each other's second largest trading partner;  
11 and

12 WHEREAS, China is the largest source of import and third largest destination of export for  
13 the United States; and

14 WHEREAS, the significant increase of trade between the United States and China has



1 created millions of job opportunities in both countries; and

2 WHEREAS, there are forty-one pairs of sister states/provinces and two hundred three pairs  
3 of sister cities between the United States and China and the two countries also established the  
4 U.S.-China Governors Forum in January 2011 to support subnational cooperation. All these  
5 provide channels and opportunities for exchange and cooperation between the people of the two  
6 countries; and

7 WHEREAS, over ten thousand Americans and Chinese fly across the Pacific Ocean every  
8 single day for mutual visits with the purpose of educational exchanges, business opportunities,  
9 and tourism and the people in both countries are raising higher demands on broader and deeper  
10 exchanges and cooperation; and

11 WHEREAS, the State of South Dakota has shared a great relationship with China through  
12 strong diplomatic ties, increasing trading cooperation, and frequent exchanges of people; and

13 WHEREAS, South Dakota has not established any sister state/province or sister city  
14 relationship with China, while other US states have enjoyed such a relationship which promotes  
15 a long-term, mutually beneficial, and strong friendship with each other; and

16 WHEREAS, we recognize that the key to these special accomplishments lies in mutual  
17 understanding and mutual respect as well as in vision and support of leaders in both countries:

18 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Senate of the Ninetieth Legislature of the  
19 State of South Dakota, the House of Representatives concurring therein, that the South Dakota  
20 State Legislature is committed to a stronger relationship with China, exploring the establishment  
21 of sister state/province and sister city relationship with China, enriching economic prosperity  
22 and cultural understanding in both countries, and bridging two great countries and great peoples.